CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A composition comprising (i) fexofenadine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and (ii) a pharmaceutical excipient which increases the solubility of the fexofenadine or salt in water, which is adapted for delivery of the fexofenadine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to the eye or nose.

2. A composition as claimed in Claim 1 for use in medicine.

3. A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutical excipient is a water miscible, non-aqueous solvent.

4. A composition as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the solvent is propylene glycol or glycofurol (tetraglycol).

5. A composition as claimed in Claims 1, wherein the pharmaceutical excipient is a material which is able to complex with the fexofenadine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. A composition as claimed in Claims 1, wherein the pharmaceutical excipient is a cyclodextrin.

7. A composition as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the cyclodextrin is hydroxypropyl-β-cyclodextrin.

8. A composition as claimed in claim 1, which further comprises a material that provides for controlled release of the fexofenadine or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A composition as claimed in Claims 1, which further comprises a gelling agent or bioadhesive material.

10. A composition as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the gelling agent or bioadhesive material is a polysaccharide.

11. A composition as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the gelling agent or bioadhesive material is selected from the group consisting of pectin, alginate, starch, gellan and chitosan.

12. A composition as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the gelling agent is a block co-polymer.

13. A composition as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the block co-polymer is a poloxamer.

14. A composition as claimed in claim 1, which is an aqueous composition additionally comprising an aqueous vehicle.

15. The use of a composition according to Claim 1, in the manufacture of a medicament for administration of fexofenadine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to the nose or to the eye.

16. The use of a composition according to Claims 1, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of rhinitis.

17. The use of (i) fexofenadine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and (ii) a pharmaceutical excipient which increases the solubility of the fexofenadine or salt in water in the manufacture of a medicament for administration of the fexofenadine or salt to the nose or to the eye.

18. The use of a composition according to Claims 9, in the manufacture of a medicament for controlling the release of fexofenadine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof when the composition is administered to the nose or to the eye.

19. The use of a composition according to Claim 9, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating rhinitis by the controlled release of the fexofenadine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. A method of treating a patient in need of treatment with fexofenadine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof which comprises administering an effective amount of a composition according to Claim 1 to a patient in need of such treatment.

21. A method of treating rhinitis which comprises administering an effective amount of a composition according to Claim 1, to a patient in need of such treatment.

22. A method of treating a patient with a controlled release dose of fexofenadine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof which comprises administering an effective amount of a composition according to Claim 9, to a patient in need of such treatment.